





# STATE OF INDIANA

ERIC J. HOLCOMB, Governor

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## ANALYSIS

It is the intent of the Open Door Law ("ODL") that official action of public agencies be conducted and taken openly, unless otherwise expressly provided by statute, in order that the people may be fully informed. *See Indiana Code § 5-14-1.5-1*. Section 6.1 provides an exception, allowing public agencies to conduct executive sessions which are closed to the public in order to discuss strategies with respect to certain specified topics.

Based on the information provided, it does not appear as if the Commissioners actually met, but rather one Commissioner met with other public employees to discuss the administrative oversight of the permit issue. The Open Door Law does not address every meeting of every department, staff or gathering, but only those meetings conducted by a majority of a governing body. The gathering referenced in the complaint was not of a majority of a governing body.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, it is the Opinion of the Public Access Counselor the LaPorte County Board of Commissioners did not violate the Open Door Law.

Luke H. Britt

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Britt".

Public Access Counselor

Cc: Mr. Douglas L Biege, Esq.